

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /085 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4975

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13874

BEIRUT PASS BAGDAD

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR: UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS CAUTIOUS ON GENEVA, CONCERNED ON U.S. ARMS  
TO ISRAEL

REF: MOSCOW 13572

1. AS MOSCOW WATCHES THE MIDDLE EAST (AND WASHINGTON) FOR  
INDICATIONS OF WHAT WILL FOLLOW AFTER SINAI II, THE SOVIET  
PRESS CONTINUES TO HOLD TO A LOW PROFILE IN COMMENTARY ON  
NEGOTIATING MODALITIES. GROMYKO'S REFERENCE TO THE GENEVA  
CONFERENCE IN HIS U.N. SPEECH HAS SIGNALLED TO THE PRESS THAT  
IT CAN REFER TO GENEVA AGAIN, BUT IT DOES SO CAUTIOUSLY--AS  
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DID GROMYKO IN NEW YORK. PRAVDA'S AUTHORITATIVE INTERNATIONAL  
REVIEW ON SEPTEMBER 28 SAYS THAT "AN APPROPRIATE MECHANISM"

FOR "EXAMINATION" OF THE MAIN PROBLEMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAD BEEN CREATED IN THE GENEVA FORUM. PRAVDA ALSO EXPANDS SLIGHTLY ON GROMYKO'S REMARKS TO MAKE AN EXPLICIT CALL FOR PLO PARTICIPATION, BUT DOES NOT SPECIFY WHETHER THE PLO WOULD BE IN ON THE CONFERENCE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

2. THE MAIN WEIGHT OF SOVIET COMMENTARY ON THE MIDDLE EAST, HOWEVER, HAS SHIFTED TO THE ALLEGED MILITARY THREAT TO THE OTHER STATES IN THE AREA POSED BY AN ISRAEL ARMED TO THE TEETH WITH MODERN U.S. WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY (SEE REFTTEL). KRASNAYA ZVEZDA'S WEEKLY MILITARY REVIEW ON SEPTEMBER 27 SAYS THAT "ONE OF THE FACTORS" WHICH HAS "ENCOURAGED" TEL AVIV TO "HARDEN" ITS EXPANSIONIST POLICIES HAS BEEN THE SECRET MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON U.S. MILITARY AID. KRASHAYA ZVEZDA ALSO CLAIMS THAT THE MEMO SHOWS THAT THE U.S. "PROMISES TO DELIVER" F-16'S AND PERSHING'S. THE LATTER, THE ARTICLE CONTINUES, QUOTING A WESTERN OBSERVER, ARE "SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED TO CARRY NUCLEAR WARHEADS." AND PRAVDA ON SEPTEMBER 29 CLAIMS THAT THE ARAB STATES IN THE U.N. HAVE SUBJECTED THE U.S. TO "SHARP CRITICISM" FOR ITS POLICY OF FURTHER ARMS DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL. THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT THE ARAB LEAGUE STATEMENT REFERS SPECIFICALLY TO U.S. F-15'S AND 16'S AND LANCE AND PERSHING MISSILES AS "ENCOURAGING" ISRAELI OBDURACY.

3. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL REVIEW ON SEPTEMBER 28 ADDS A NEW WRINKLE, HOWEVER, IN ITS ACCUSATION (THROUGH QUOTATIONS FROM A LEBANESE PAPER) THAT THE ISRAELI "ZIONIST" AND LEBANESE FALANGISTS FOLLOW THE SAME GOALS, ARE ALLIES IN THE OBJECTIVE SENSE, "AND RECEIVE SUPPORT AND ARMS FROM ONE AND THE SAME SOURCE."  
MATLOCK

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, MCAP, US, XF, IS, UR, UN, (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH)  
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